

EXPERIENCE, MOTIVATION
ENSURE WARFIGHTER READINESS
FOR YEARS TO COME

E&I: Support on the frontlines

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SOUTHWEST ASIA — When the Air Force needs IT infrastructure work done it calls on Engineering and Installation.

E&I has the experience, the processes and the motivated manpower to get the job done.

Due to consolidation and transformation, 95 percent of the roughly 2,300 Air Force E&I specialists now reside in the Air National Guard. These limited E&I resources have become highly sought after by bases across the Air Force. **E&I has accomplished major infrastructure projects at numerous Air Force bases around the world, but nowhere have their efforts been more enduring than in U.S. Central Command Air Forces, where they've maintained a steady state of at least 38 AEF positions since 1999.**

At the present, CENTAF has 99 E&I personnel, 47 Air Force and 52 contractors, supporting Air Force and joint projects in the AOR. Since Sept. 11, 2001, CENTAF E&I has completed more than 350 projects working more than 18,000 man-days. Some of the highlights include installing

the infrastructure for the state-of-the-art Combined Air Operations Center, completion of fiber rings at three bases in Iraq, and the erection of numerous towers and antennas throughout the area of responsibility. More recent examples include work performed at Kandahar Air Base in Afghanistan and Ali, Kirkuk and Balad Air Bases in Iraq.

In February, E&I teams erected a 100 foot tower and four antennas at Kirkuk and installed eight antennas at Balad. Both projects support communications on and off base providing improved security.

In May, E&I completed the 23 mile Ali AB fiber ring. This project is instrumental in the commercialization of the entire base, supporting thousands of users.

With the extraordinary effectiveness and efficiency of E&I on the frontlines, it's encouraging to see the model expanded to include Army and Marine infrastructure requirements. The E&I concept of operations allows USCENTAF/A6 to manage AOR infrastructure projects with Air Force and Air National Guard E&I personnel and contractors providing the skill-set and labor to engineer

and install infrastructure projects.

Keeping everything organized is the new Joint Cable Oversight Board. The JCOB will prioritize infrastructure projects for the AOR. The board will meet monthly, via video teleconference and is to be chaired by the CENTCOM/Joint Director of Communications. Members include the Air Force Central Command FWD/Director of Communications, Army Central Command Director of Communications, Combined Forces Campaign – Afghanistan Director of Communications and the Multi-National Force – Iraq CIS. The board will prioritize requirements and review funding for the list of materials. They will also address theater needs to best use these low density high demand E&I assets.

Projects within the AOR will be managed using E&I's time tested and combat proven centralized planning/engineering and installation process. This ensures unity of effort and the maximum efficiency of manpower resources that have made the efforts so successful in the past.

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READABILITY BASED ON FLESH-KINCAID SCORES

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» E&I assets are in very high demand, especially on the frontlines. To keep these assets organized the new Joint Cable Oversight Board is coming online. The board will have its hands full prioritizing theater needs and finding the best way to use these skill sets in the Global War on Terror.

JARGON WATCH

- » CENTAF: U.S. Central Command Air Forces
- » CENTCOM: U.S. Central Command
- » AEF: Air Expeditionary Force
- » AOR: Area of Responsibility
- » JCOB: Joint Cable Oversight Board